

CASE NAME/NO.: SP02-162

SERIAL NO. 10/668,873

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EXAMINER: THOMAS L. DICKIE

GROUP ART UNIT: 2826

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REMARKS

Claims 1-14 and 19 remain in this application. Claims 15-18 have been withdrawn from consideration, without prejudice.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such allowance is earnestly solicited.

Applicants believe that no extension of time is necessary to make this Response timely. Should Applicants be in error, Applicants respectfully request the Office grant such time extension pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) as necessary to make this Response timely, and hereby authorizes the Office to charge any necessary fee or surcharge with respect to said time extension to the deposit account of the undersigned firm of attorneys, Deposit Account 03-3325.

Please direct any questions or comments to Thomas R. Beall at 607-974-3921.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: June 23, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8: I hereby certify that this paper and any papers referred to herein are being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service, as first class mail, postage prepaid, addressed to Commissioner of Patents, Alexandria, VA 22315-1450 on June 23, 2004.

Thomas R. Beall